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SOCIOLOGY

KELSEY, CARL. *The Physical Basis of Society.* Pp. xvi, 406. Price, \$2.00. New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1916.

In this book Professor Kelsey has not attempted to say anything new but to bring together a mass of knowledge which has never before been assembled between two covers. To lay a proper foundation for the study of society he sets forth what we know as to the relation between man and his physical environment, the control of nature, the evolution of man, heredity, eugenics, race differences, sex differences, the influence of society upon population, social institutions and the nature of progress. From the writings of the specialists on geography, natural history, biology, ethnography and criminal anthropology, he has gleaned, arranged and intelligently interpreted experiments and observations not easily accessible to the student. The style is clear and interesting, the treatment concrete and summary, the attitude objective and the spirit impartial. The author shows open-mindedness and sound judgment, and, in dealing with controverted matters, takes pains to give the evidence on both sides. He proves himself skilful in guiding the reader through a great body of data often ambiguous or conflicting. The book will be welcomed by teachers of sociology who have felt the need of an introductory text leading up to sociology proper. I can imagine no better use of Professor Kelsey's book than putting the class through it during the first part of a course in general sociology.

E. A. R.

LE BON, GUSTAVE. *The Psychology of the Great War.* (Trans. by E. Andrews.) Pp. 480. Price, \$3.00. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1916.

To those who are familiar with the previous writings of the author, the present volume will be something of a disappointment. The keen psychological analysis is present, as in *The Psychology of Revolutions*, but one misses the poise and balanced judgment. It is a splendid example of the influence of war upon even the scholarly mind. The writer is too near the events and too much concerned in the outcome to judge without prejudice. In Books I, V and VII devoted respectively to Psychological Principles Necessary for the Interpretation of the Present War, Psychological Forces Involved in Battles, and Unknown Quantities in Warfare, we find the unbiased analysis of the psychologist, while in Books II, III, IV and VI containing the description of Germany's Evolution in Modern Times, Remote Causes of the War, The Immediate Causes of the War, and Psychological Elements in German Methods of Warfare we find the perfectly natural but partisan reactions of the French nationalist. However much one may sympathize with the feelings of the author, nevertheless in a scientific psychological treatise on the war an analysis of the methods of all the nations involved should certainly be included. In other words; it should not be left to each nation to describe the psychology of the antagonist. It is unfortunate that such a volume as this purports to be, as judged by its title, should not have been deferred until the passions aroused by war had subsided so that a calm and balanced psychological